

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 11 to 16, 19, 20, 31 to 36, 39, 40, 51, 53, 55 and 57 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and amend Claims 1 to 10, 17, 18, 21 to 30, 37, 38, 41 to 50, 52, 54 and 56 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An information management apparatus for transmitting data indicating information on a device to an external apparatus, comprising:

a storage unit, adapted for storing data indicating information on the device,

the stored data being not dependent on a machine kind of the device;

an acquisition unit, adapted means for acquiring the said data from said ~~[[a]]~~ storage unit ~~in said information management apparatus~~ when the said data to be transmitted to the external apparatus is not dependent upon the ~~[[a]]~~ machine kind of the said device, and acquiring the said data indicating information on the device from a storage unit in the said device when the said data to be transmitted to the external apparatus is dependent upon the machine kind of the said device; and

transmission control unit, adapted means for controlling so that the said data acquired by said acquisition unit means may be transmitted to the external apparatus,

wherein the data stored in said storage unit of said information management apparatus is not acquired from the device.

2. (Currently amended) The information management apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when the said data is dependent upon the machine kind of the said device, said acquisition unit means transmits a request of said data to the said device, and receives the said data from the said device.

3. (Currently amended) The information management apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a judgment unit, adapted to transmit means for, when said data is transmitted in response to a request from said external apparatus, and to judge judging, on the basis of data identification information for identifying said data, included in the said request, as to whether the requested said data is stored in said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or stored in the storage unit in the said device,

wherein, in accordance with a judgment result by said judgment unit means, said acquisition unit means acquires the said data from said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or the storage unit in the said device.

4. (Currently amended) The information management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the data said identification information is a path name, and

wherein said judgment unit means judges, on the basis of a directory part included in the said path name, as to whether the requested said data is stored in said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or stored in the storage unit in the said device.

5. (Currently amended) The information management apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a judgment unit adapted to judge ~~means for judging~~, on the basis of a list indicating the said data dependent upon the machine kind of the said device, as to whether the said data is stored in said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or stored in said [[the]] storage unit in the said device,

wherein, in accordance with a judgment result by said judgment unit ~~means~~, said acquisition unit ~~means~~ acquires the said data from said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or said [[the]] storage unit in the said device.

6. (Currently amended) The information management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the said identification information is URL-inscribed.

7. (Currently amended) The information management apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the said data is transmitted to said external apparatus, based on HTTP.

8. (Currently amended) The information management apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a network board is attached to the said device.

9. (Currently amended) The information management apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the said data is requested from said external apparatus, based on document data for display for displaying information on the said device by a browser.

10. (Currently amended) The information management apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the said device is a laser beam printer.

11. to 16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) An information management apparatus for transmitting document data for displaying information on a device to an external apparatus, ~~characterized by comprising:~~

an acquisition unit, adapted to acquire ~~means for acquiring~~ an equipment construction of the said device from the said device;[[,]] and

a control unit, adapted to control ~~means for controlling~~ so that a notation syntax for acquiring from said information management apparatus data indicating the equipment construction acquired by said acquisition unit and displaying the equipment construction acquired by said acquisition means at the external apparatus may be included in the said document data if the acquired equipment construction meets a condition corresponding to the notation and the said document data with the notation may be transmitted to the said external apparatus,

wherein the notation is described in a predetermined language, and if the equipment construction does not meet the condition corresponding to the notation, the notation is not included in the document data and the document data without the notation is transmitted to the external apparatus.

18. (Currently amended) The information management apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the equipment construction concerns a paper feed apparatus attached, and

wherein, in accordance with the attached paper feed apparatus, a syntax for displaying information on the said paper feed apparatus is included in the said document data.

19. and 20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) An information management method for transmitting data indicating information on a device to an external apparatus, comprising:

a storing step of storing data indicating information on the device, the stored data being not dependent on a machine kind of the device;

an acquisition step of acquiring the said data from said [[a]] storage unit in ~~said information management apparatus~~ when the said data to be transmitted to the external apparatus is not dependent upon the [[a]] machine kind of the said device, and acquiring the said data indicating information on the device from a storage unit in the said device when the said data to be transmitted to the external apparatus is dependent upon the machine kind of the said device; and

a transmission control step of controlling so that the said data acquired by said acquisition unit means may be transmitted to the external apparatus,

wherein the data stored by said storing step in said storage unit of said information management apparatus is not acquired from the device.

22. (Currently amended) The information management method according to claim 21, wherein, when said data is dependent upon the machine kind of the said device, the said acquisition step transmits a request of ~~said~~ data to the said device, and receives the said data from the said device.

23. (Currently amended) The information management method according to claim 21, further comprising:

a judgment step of transmitting, ~~when said data is transmitted~~ in response to a request from said external apparatus, and judging, on the basis of data identification information ~~for identifying said data~~, included in the said request, as to whether the requested said data is stored in said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or stored in the storage unit in the said device,

wherein, in accordance with a judgment result by said judgment step, said acquisition step acquires the said data from said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or the storage unit in the said device.

24. (Currently amended) The information management method according to claim 23, wherein the data said identification information is a path name, and

wherein said judgment step judges, on the basis of a directory part included in the said path name, as to whether the requested said data is stored in said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or stored in the storage unit in the said device.

25. (Currently amended) The information management method according to claim 21, further comprising:

a judgment step of judging, on the basis of a list indicating the said data dependent upon the machine kind of the said device, as to whether the said data is stored in said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or stored in said [[the]] storage unit in the said device,

wherein, in accordance with a judgment result by said judgment step, said acquisition step acquires the said data from said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or said [[the]] storage unit in the said device.

26. (Currently amended) The information management method according to claim 23, wherein the said identification information is URL-inscribed.

27. (Currently amended) The information management method according to claim 21, wherein the said data is transmitted to said external apparatus, based on HTTP.

28. (Currently amended) The information management method according to claim 21, wherein said information management method is executed on a network board attached to the said device.

29. (Currently amended) The information management method according to claim 21, wherein the said data is requested from said external apparatus, based on document data for display for displaying information on the said device by a browser.

30. (Currently amended) The information management method according to claim 21, wherein the said device is a laser beam printer.

31. to 36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently amended) An information management method for transmitting document data for displaying information on a device to an external apparatus, comprising:

an acquisition step of acquiring an equipment construction of the said device from the said device;[[,]] and

a control step of controlling so that a notation syntax for acquiring from said information management step data indicating the equipment construction acquired by said acquisition step and displaying the equipment construction acquired by said acquisition step at the external apparatus may be included in the said document data if the acquired equipment construction meets a condition corresponding to the notation and the said document data with the notation may be transmitted to the said external apparatus.

38. (Currently amended) The information management method according to claim 37, wherein the equipment construction concerns a paper feed apparatus attached, and

wherein, in accordance with the attached paper feed apparatus, a syntax for displaying information on the said paper feed apparatus is included in the said document data.



39. and 40. (Canceled)

41. (Currently amended) A computer-readable memory medium in which a program for transmitting data indicating information on a device to an external apparatus is stored, said program causing a computer to execute:

a storing step of storing data indicating information on the device, the stored data being not dependent on a machine kind of the device;

an acquisition step of acquiring the said data from said [[a]] storage unit in ~~said information management apparatus~~ when the said data to be transmitted to the external apparatus is not dependent upon the [[a]] machine kind of the said device, and acquiring the said data indicating information on the device from a storage unit in the said device when the said data to be transmitted to the external apparatus is dependent upon the machine kind of the said device; and

a transmission control step of controlling so that the said data acquired by said acquisition unit ~~means~~ may be transmitted to the external apparatus,

wherein the data stored by said storing step in said storage unit of said information management apparatus is not acquired from the device.

42. (Currently amended) The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein, when said data is dependent upon the machine kind of the said device, the said acquisition step transmits a request of said data to the said device, and receives the said data from the said device.

43. (Currently amended) The memory medium according to claim 41, said program causing the computer to further execute:

a judgment step of transmitting, ~~when said data is transmitted~~ in response to a request from said external apparatus, and judging, on the basis of data identification information ~~for identifying said data~~, included in the said request, as to whether the requested ~~said~~ data is stored in said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or stored in the storage unit in the ~~said~~ device,

wherein, in accordance with a judgment result by said judgment step, said acquisition step acquires the ~~said~~ data from said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or the storage unit in the ~~said~~ device.

44. (Currently amended) The memory medium according to claim 43, wherein the data ~~said~~ identification information is a path name, and

wherein said judgment step judges, on the basis of a directory part included in the ~~said~~ path name, as to whether the requested ~~said~~ data is stored in said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or stored in the storage unit in the ~~said~~ device.

45. (Currently amended) The memory medium according to claim 41, said program causing the computer to further execute:

a judgment step of judging, on the basis of a list indicating the ~~said~~ data to be transmitted to the external apparatus is not dependent upon the machine kind of the ~~said~~

device, as to whether the said data is stored in said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or stored in said [[the]] storage unit in the said device,

wherein, in accordance with a judgment result by said judgment step, said acquisition step acquires the said data from said [[the]] storage unit in said information management apparatus or said [[the]] storage unit in the said device.

46. (Currently amended) The memory medium according to claim 43, wherein the said identification information is URL-inscribed.

47. (Currently amended) The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein the said data is transmitted to said external apparatus, based on HTTP.

48. (Currently amended) The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein said information management method is executed on a network board attached to the said device.

49. (Currently amended) The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein the said data is requested from said external apparatus, based on document data for display for displaying information on the said device by a browser.

50. (Currently amended) The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein the said device is a laser beam printer.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Currently amended) A computer-readable memory medium in which a program for transmitting document data for displaying information on a device to an external apparatus is stored, said program causing a computer to execute:

an acquisition step of acquiring an equipment construction of the said device from the said device;[[,]] and

a control step of controlling so that a notation syntax for acquiring from said information management step data indicating the equipment construction acquired by said acquisition step and displaying the equipment construction acquired by said acquisition step at the external apparatus may be included in the said document data if the acquired equipment construction meets a condition corresponding to the notation and the said document data with the notation may be transmitted to the said external apparatus.

53. (Canceled)

54. (Currently amended) An information management program for transmitting data indicating information on a device to an external apparatus, comprising:

a storing step of storing data indicating information on the device, the stored data being not dependent on a machine kind of the device;

an acquisition step of acquiring the said data from said [[a]] storage unit ~~in said information management apparatus~~ when the said data to be transmitted to the external apparatus is not dependent upon the [[a]] machine kind of the said device, and acquiring

the said data indicating information on the device from a storage unit in the said device when the said data to be transmitted to the external apparatus is dependent upon the machine kind of the said device; and

a transmission control step of controlling so that the said data acquired by said acquisition unit means may be transmitted to the external apparatus,

wherein the data stored by said storing step in said storage unit of said information management apparatus is not acquired from the device.

55. (Canceled)

56. (Currently amended) An information management program for transmitting document data for displaying information on a device to an external apparatus, comprising:

an acquisition step of acquiring an equipment construction of the said device from the said device; and

a control step of controlling so that a notation syntax for acquiring from said information management step data indicating the equipment construction acquired by said acquisition step and displaying the equipment construction acquired by said acquisition step at the external apparatus may be included in the said document data if the acquired equipment construction meets a condition corresponding to the notation and the said document data with the notation may be transmitted to the said external apparatus.

57. (Canceled)